



U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Women's Business Ownership



Ana Recio Harvey

Assistant Administrator for Women's Business Ownership

As the U.S. Small Business Administration's assistant administrator for women's business ownership, Ana Recio Harvey is the director of the SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership. She oversees the agency's efforts to promote the growth of women-owned businesses through programs that provide business training and counseling, access to credit and capital, and multiple business and networking opportunities.

Harvey manages a nationwide network of women's business centers that provide training and counseling to hundreds of thousands of entrepreneurs in nearly every state and two U.S. territories. Her office also works with representatives in every SBA district office to oversee operations of the women's business centers and to coordinate services for women entrepreneurs.

After working as a translation consultant from 1991 to 2000, Harvey established Syntaxis, LLC, a highly successful SBA 8(a)-certified multilingual communications company with clients from Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Harvey successfully grew her company from a single English-to-Spanish translation agency into a full-service multilingual communications firm with 75 employees handling communications and translations in 25 languages.

While still managing her company, Harvey served for two years as Latino programs director with Latino Programs Director for Cultural Tourism DC, where she developed relationships with community-based organizations and Latino audiences in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area. She developed and implemented tourism promotions and activities that highlighted Latino-based cultural tourism sites and programs in Washington's historic neighborhoods.

In 2007, Harvey was named president and CEO of the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, a post she held until President Obama appointed her to lead the Office of Women's Business Ownership. At the Chamber, she set the direction and provided the leadership that helped the organization fulfill its philosophy, mission and strategy, and enabled it to achieve its annual financial goals and community objectives.

Harvey holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Houston.